Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 $/027~\mathrm{W}$

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R 081015Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7433 AMEMBASSY ATHENS

CONFIDENTIAL VALLETTA 0642

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BBAK, EINV, MT, GR

SUBJECT: SPARTAN INDUSTRIES CONSIDERS MALTA FOR ARMS FACTORY

- 1. GOM OFFICIALS (INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER IN DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR)HAVE REQUESTED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN DETERMINING BONA FIDES OF SPARTAN INDUSTRIES, S.A., 2 PREMETIS STR. (ILISIA), ATHENS. FIRM, WHICH ALLEGEDLY INVOLVES U.S. INTERESTS, IS DISCUSSING WITH GOM THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN ARMS FACTORY IN MALTA.
- 2. PRESIDENT OF SPARTAN INDUSTRIES IS REPORTEDLY GEORGE N. STRATIGEAS, AND VICE PRESIDENT IS MANOS ILLIADIS. U.S. COMPANIES TO WHICH SPARTAN INDUSTRIES IS ALLEGED TO BE CONNECTED ARE SURPLUS UNLIMITED CORPORATION, 333 SOUTH GLEBE STREET, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA; BINNEY AND SMITH, INC., 380 MADISON AVE., NYC; CHARTER CARAT INTERNATIONAL, 825 BROAD AVE., NYC; ALL AMERICAN INDUSTRIES INC., INTERNATIONAL CONTROL CORP. AND DATRON SYSTEMS, INC., ALL OF THOMASTON, CONNECTICUT. THROUGH THESE LAST THREE FIRMS, SPARTAN INDUSTRIES ALLEGEDLY ALSO IS INTERCONNECTED WITH OTHER US AND EUROPEAN FIRMS.
- 3. STARTIGEAS RECENTLY MET WITH GOM OFFICIALS IN MALTA AND CLAIMED TO HAVE A "GREEN LIGHT" FROM THE US GOVERNMENT TO CONFIDENTIAL.

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PURSUE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ARMS FACTORY IN MALTA. HE ALSO TOLD GOM OFFICIALS TO COPY CORRESPONDENCE ON THE MATTER TO SENATOR PETER BABLES, STATE CAPITOL, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: ANY AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON STRATIGEAS AND/OR SPARTAN INDUSTRIES, BOTH UNKNOWN TO EMBASSY, WOULD BE APPRECIATED SOONEST. AMBASSADOR TOLD PRIME MINISTER

WE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH DEPT PROMPTLY AND WOULD TRY TO
HAVE RESPONSE BY TIME PM RETURNS FROM LONDON JUNE 17.
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Subject: SPARTAN INDUSTRIES CONSIDERS MALTA FOR ARMS FACTORY TAGS: BBAK, EINV, MT, GR, SPARTAN INDUSTRIES, (STRATIGEAS, GEORGE N)
To: STATE ATHENS

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